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in the very moment in which he affects you, and that his whole talent consists, not as you suppose in allowing himself to be borne away by his sensibility, but in imitating so perfectly all its external signs. They are laughers at sensibility who deceive you. The cries of grief are noted in the memory, the gestures of despair have been conned over, the precise moment at which tears should flow, has been calculated. That tremulous voice, those suspended and stifled words, that shudder of the limbs, that tottering of the knees.—All mere imitation; a lesson learned beforehand, a sublime mimicry of which the actor is conscious at the very moment he excites it; which he remembers a long time after it is over, but which does not at all touch his heart, and which, like other exercises, only fatigues his body. When he has laid aside the sock or the buskin, his voice is worn out, he feels extreme weariness, he changes his shirt and goes to bed; but he carries away no portion of grief or vexation, or depression of soul, it is the audience which bears away all these impressions. The actor is tired and the audience is sad, because he has acted without feeling any thing, and it has felt without any action; if it were otherwise the condition of the actor would be the most unhappy of all conditions. Happily both for him and us, he is not the person whom he represents; if it were not for that, how tame and uninteresting would he be! Different sensibilities culled and blended together to produce the greatest possible effect! the supposition is ridiculous. I insist then, that it is sensibility which makes the multitude of middling actors, that it is extreme sensibility which makes shallow and confined actors, that it is the want of sensibility which can alone make a sublime actor. The tears of the player fall freely, those of the man of sensibility mount with difficulty; it is the heart which affects to excess the head of the man of sensibility; it is the head of the player which produces some momentary effect upon his heart."

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#### THE SISTERS.

Ne'er hath the young enthusiast's fervent dreams  
 Been lighted up with more angelic faces,  
 Than those in which my fancy's vision traces  
 Such seraph features for its lovely themes!  
 Sisters of beauty! so it fondly deems  
 Of ye, the radiance of whose mental graces  
 Not time from memory's brightest leaf erases,  
 In each fair lineament full beauty beams  
 Sweet chauntresses! what sacred melody  
 Breathes from the thrillings of your song and lyre.  
 THINE\* is the inspiration from on high,  
 Which thou hast caught from some full angel choir.  
 THOU† with earth's music answerest to the sky,  
 And both in mingling rapture soar still higher!

R. M.

\* Mrs. Hemans.

† Miss M. A. Brown.